

Genetics Department
University of Wisconsin
Madison, Wisconsin

December 7, 1953

Mr. Tetsuo Iino
National Institute of Genetics
Yata 1111, Mishima,
Sizuoka-Ken
JAPAN

Dear Mr. Iino:

Mr. Newton Morton in this department has just handed over to me your application transmitted by Dr. Macdonald. It is possible that we may have a vacancy as of September, 1954 for an additional student looking toward candidacy for a degree of Ph.D in genetics. If you are interested to compete for this vacancy I will be pleased to have your formal application and to consider it on an equal basis with others which may be received. We are able to offer a research assistantship in the amount of approximately \$110 to \$120 per month for an outstanding candidate. This stipend is adequate for the maintenance of a single person in Madison at a reasonable degree of comfort but not luxuriance. We are not in a position to offer funds for the purpose of travel to or from Japan and I assume that you will already have considered the means of meeting this particular problem.

Under separate cover I am sending you a formal application which I ask you to return at your earliest convenience. However, the curriculum vitae that you submitted under the date November 19, 1953 provides in an informal way much of the necessary information required for the immediate present. I would be especially concerned, however, to receive letters of reference from scientific workers who are well acquainted with you. If you can refer me to any of your colleagues or teachers who are in the U.S. at the present time, this would be especially useful.

I was interested to see your paper on reverse mutation in *ustilago*. This leads me to question, however, whether you have chosen in this university the best possible place for the further development of your interests. As you are very well aware, the genetics of the smut fungi is being most diligently pursued at other institutions, notably at Stanford University where Dr. D. D. Perkins is now working in Dr. E. L. Tatum's laboratory and in Dr. Stakman's laboratory at the University of Minnesota at St. Paul, Minnesota. If you were interested to continue your studies in the particular directions of biochemical genetics or in the genetics of the smut fungi I would recommend that you transfer your application to either of these alternative places. In this laboratory we are much more directly concerned with problems of bacterial genetics and even here we are interested in biochemical mutations as a means of genetic rather than biochemical analysis.

Under separate cover I am also sending a brief reprint which will help to survey the kind of work that we have been pursuing during the last several years. I must urge you to give very careful consideration to the specific area of research that you want to develop further and to make your choice of applications in the light of this decision. If your interests are more closely in the direction of biochemical genetics I will be very happy to refer you to my colleagues who have helped to develop this field to a much larger extent than I have myself. In your application, therefore, I would especially appreciate learning the details of your prospective future research interests.

It is possible that I have misconstrued your application and that you would not be interested in a candidacy for the doctor's degree at this university. If I have been mistaken I would appreciate your enlightening me as to the precise basis on which you propose to construct your fellowship plans.

Yours very sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg,
Associate Professor of Genetics